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Honors Humanities

Mrs. Goodrich

The Alchemist Summary #3

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Santiago tells the Camel driver of how he knows that everyone can see the soul of the world. The Camel driver recounts a story of his own and then goes on to say that God can show the future to someone so that it is carried out the way it was supposed to. The Camel driver tells Santiago to warn the Chieftains of the oasis about the vision of the armies that Santiago had and that it is an omen. So Santiago goes to a huge white tent in the middle of the oasis where the Chieftains reside and tells them that he has seen an omen and goes on to explain what he saw. The one chieftain goes back in to the tent to discuss with the others. After a long talk the representative invites Santiago inside to have a discussion. The head chieftain wonders why the dessert would show an image to an outsider and they are not sure whether to trust him. After a long discussion they decide to allow everyone in the oasis to have guns for the day. Every man will be rewarded for a kill and if Santiago is wrong then he will be severely punished.

After Santiago leaves he is confronted by a man in a robe on horseback. He has a sword and threatens Santiago as to why he was able to read the Hawks omen about the Soldiers. Santiago said that he believes that he can see into the soul of the world which allowed him to acquire the vision in the first place. The man then says to meet him the next day after the battle if he survives at his home which he points to the south part of the oasis. This was the alchemist. The next day many men guard the oasis and the tent. Soldiers arrive but seem to be peaceful until they enter the center of the oasis. They draw swords but the guards kill all of the soldiers except for the commander who says that he needed food and water to survive. He is condemned to death and Santiago is awarded 50 gold pieces and is asked to be tribe counselor. Santiago then goes to visit the Alchemist and he shows up with the two hawks dead. The Alchemist says that Santiago has much to worry about and that he must continue to search for the treasure. Santiago explains that he is already happy but The Alchemist said that he saw an omen that he knew meant that Santiago needed help. So he tells him to sell his sheep and buy a horse.

Santiago returns with a horse the next night and the Alchemist mounts his and tells him to lead him into the desert. Santiago finds this suspicious but rides out into the desert. They stop and Santiago worries of Fatima. The Alchemist explains that Santiago should carry out his dream of finding the treasure because though he would be happy with Fatima, he would continue to regret his decision to not find the treasure. Santiago returns to the Oasis and tells Fatima that he is leaving but will definitely return to her one day.

Santiago and the Alchemist travel on through the desert where there is a lot of fighting and war going on. They are stopped by two men who find the elixir of life on the Alchemist so he tells the two what it is and they laugh and let them go. Santiago wonders why that happened and The Alchemist says it is because not everyone truly believes that that stuff exists. They continue to travel and two more men approach them and The Alchemist has a conversation with them and they leave immediately. The Alchemist explains that the strength of some ones soul is expressed through their eyes. So then Santiago makes the connection of why he then can see the soul of the world. Santiago inquires the Alchemist about Alchemy and all of the secrets. The Alchemist says that he has already achieved it because he can see the soul of the world and that turning lead into gold just understands evolution. Two more men approach them the next day and accuse them of being spies so they take Santiago and the Alchemist to their Chieftains for questioning. The alchemist says that Santiago is an Alchemist and that he will destroy the camp in three days by turning into the wind. They don’t believe him but they decide to deal with them later. The Alchemist tells Santiago that he was just keeping them alive.

Santiago wonders how he can become the wind and for the next two days contemplates it. On the third day the chieftain comes and wonders why Santiago has not turned into the wind. Santiago then speaks to the wind. The wind says that he would help but Santiago asks too much from it and says talk to the sun. So then the sun says that he must continue to follow his personal legend if he wants to be happy. The sun says to talk to the hand that wrote all if he wants to leave. The wind hears this and begins to blow hard and Santiago then is standing on the other side of the camp because of the wind. The chieftain then orders an escort for them to lead them to the pyramids.

They continue to travel and they arrive at a monastery and meet a monk. The monk brings out a chunk of lead and the Alchemist starts to cook it in a pan and it turns to gold. Santiago wonders how he did that but the Alchemist won’t teach him because it wasn’t his personal legend to. Then Santiago takes a small piece of the gold and goes to the Pyramids. He begins to dig but men come up and ask what he is doing. He explains the dream and they both tell him that the treasure is fake and that if it was real it would be in Spain. Then they take his gold and his possessions and tell him to keep digging. When he doesn’t find anything they beat him some more but then Santiago then realizes where the treasure lies.